



JOIN THESE DATES ON YOUR

CALENDAR



Fri., Feb. 10 – Mon. Feb. 13 – College Editors Conference: “*Pressure Points on the News Frontier.*” Panel discussions Saturday and Sunday for college editors. Members are asked to yield Clubhouse privileges, except in the bar, during the weekend on behalf of their college editor guests. Buffet will be served on Saturday and smorgasbord on Sunday at usual hours in the bar.

Tues., Feb. 14 – Regional Dinner: New Orleans Mardi Gras. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Member and one guest. Reservations, please.

Tues., Feb. 21 – Open House: Israel and Her Neighbors. Ogden R. Reid, just returned from tour of service as Ambassador to Israel, reports on his experiences and answers questions. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:30. Reservations.

Fri., Feb. 24 – Special Dinner: Maine Lobster Night. Cocktails, 6:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:30 p.m. Reservations, please.

Mon., Feb. 27 – Special Cocktail Party for Members to View New Building at 54-56 W. 40 St: Take lobby elevators at right, up to 10th floor lounge. There it will be announced where and how the tours of the quarters will be made. Member and one guest. Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Fri., May 19 – OPC Charter Flight to Paris. (Members in U.S., see insert.)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In compliance with the provisions in the Constitution for election of officers and Board of Governors, the President and the Board at its last meeting elected and appointed a Nominating Committee.

The committee, which held its first meeting on Mon., Feb. 6, consists of Burnet Hershey, chairman; Lin Root, Norwood Allman; Donald Wayne, F. Richard Anderson, Emanuel Freedman; and Kenneth Giniger.

Nominees chosen by the committee will be announced in a later issue of the *Bulletin*. Active members, not named by the committee, are eligible to run for office by petition.

OPC AWARDS SET FOR APRIL 14

The 22nd Annual Awards Dinner and Dance of the Overseas Press Club will be held in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on Fri., April 14, it was announced this week by Ben Grauer, dinner committee chairman.

Following the dinner and traditional presentation of OPC awards, dancing is scheduled in the smaller ballroom adjoining until 2:00 a.m.

Ticket prices for members have been scaled down from last year's charge, and will be \$15 each for a member and one guest (wife or non-member). The price for other guests remains the same at \$35 per ticket.

A dinner committee office has been established at 33 East 39th Street, next door to the Clubhouse, where tickets may be purchased directly. Committee phone numbers are MU 6-8398, MU 6-8399.

Four thousand invitations are being mailed this week to the membership and to prominent personalities and organizations in New York City, according to Ben Wright, executive vice chairman of the dinner committee.



Grauer

Wright

However, members need not wait for their invitations if they wish to make reservations now accompanied by checks in the proper amount. Members with charge accounts may have tickets billed to their accounts.

Norwood F. Allman, chairman of the invitations and reservations subcommittee advises immediate reservations in light of the fact that the dinner dance has been a complete sellout for the past 6 years. Some members have had to be turned away because they waited too long before making reservations, he said.

Sales will be on a first-come, first-served basis. No refunds will be made except to members suddenly assigned out of town.

If members wish, they may arrange their own table grouping but they are asked to provide their lists in writing to the dinner committee.

Wirsig Will Edit Dateline

The editorial content of the 1961 *Dateline* magazine will be supervised by



Wirsig

Vision magazine under the capable direction of Woodrow Wirsig, editor of *Printers' Ink*. Mr. Wirsig will have a completely experienced staff including Dick Bruner, Peggy Boomer, Marilyn Hoffner, Velma Stout, Walter Joyce, Igor Gordevitch, Kenneth Ford, William MacLeish, and Clark Wells. They will be supported by Milton Caniff, John Groth, Cornelius Ryan and Joseph Willicombe, Jr.

The production end of *Dateline* will be handled by Ben Zwerling and David Bresson; advertising by Bernard Frazier and Kurt Lassen.

GOVT. POSTS FOR MEMBERS

Three more OPCers have been appointed to key governmental posts by President John F. Kennedy.

Adolf A. Berle, Jr., will head a special State Department group dealing with Latin American affairs, the creation of which was announced in President Kennedy's State-of-the-Union message Jan. 30. Included in the task force will be Theodore C. Achilles, State Department counselor who holds rank of ambassador and recently was Ambassador to Peru.

Donald Wilson, *Time-Life*, has been named Deputy Director of the United States Information Agency, assisting newly-appointed USIA Chief Edward R. Murrow.

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Overseas Ticker



.....Edited by CHARLES KLENSCH.....

MEXICO.....from ART DIGGLE

New Fgn Press Club ofers: Robert Katz, AFP, pres; Jack Rutledge, AP, veep; Serafin Wyler, Swiss Radio, secy; **Dave Weber**, NBC, treas; **Jaime Plenn**, UPI, credentials, and Anatoli Pavlenko, Tass, finance....

Kay Hampton, SportsIllust, in town doing piece on Pat McCormick, lady bull-fighter... Jack Rutledge off to El Salvador to cover latest Central American coup... Gerry Robichaud, ChiDlyNews, in Rio on 1st leg of 5-week LatAm jaunt... **Harvey Rosenhouse**, Time, Caracasward....

New members of press club include Rodrigo de Llano, publ of MexCity Excelsior, and Justo Sierra, Presidential press advisor... Dave Weber back from exploration of Barranca de Cobre, Mexico's Grand Canyon, for NYTimes travel sect....

Jack Altshul, Newsday columnist, has returned to Long Island after 3 weeks gathering material for Mexican series.... Pepe Romero, MexCityNews columnist, returned from covering Kennedy inauguration... **Bob Benjamin** has piece in local American CofC monthly on growth of PR here... Bert Quint, NYHerTrib, in NYC on vacation... **Kip Ross** and Bart McDowell, NtlGeog, and **Murray Fromson**, NBC, are visiting.

LONDON.....from JAY AXELBANK

NBC has all hands in London for the 1st time in many months with the return of **Joe Harsch** from the US and Bill Boyle from Algeria. Of his most recent trip to Algeria, his third in 3 months, Boyle told the Bulletin:

"This election trip was the quietest ever. We didn't get anything thrown at us. I went to the hills with French armed guards but nothing eventful happend there either. Sometimes I think I get lonely without tear gas."...

Time's **Robert Elson** has returned to London after a US trip... UPI's John Parry back at the desk after a brief vacation. Just transferred here from Frankfurt, he is busy getting settled in hard-to-find-a-flat London.

CAIRO.....from ELAINE SHEPARD

At a farewell party for NYC-bound **Frank** and **Gwen Kearns** at Cairo's plush Nile Hilton, NYHerTrib's **Joe Alex Morris jr**, turned to ABC's **Charley Arnot**, the host, and said:

"Charley, tomorrow you'll be the only permanent broadcaster left. From now on ABC will have an automatic exclusive in Cairo."

One of the guests, **Kamal Bakr**, chief of the Fgn Press Sect of the UAR's Info

Admin, laughed, then said to Arnot: "Oh, we'll get rid of you, too."

The Kearns had spent 8 years in the Mideast. Their departure left a wide gap in the hearts of their many friends.

Morris also is NYC bound shortly with his attractive German-born wife, Ula, and infant daughter. That will narrow the permanent American presscorps in Cairo to AP's **Wilton Wynn**, UPI's **Arthur Higbee** (still on assignment in the Congo), **Jay Walz** of the NYTimes and ABC's **Arnot**.

NBC transferred **Welles Hangen** to India last year and closed its Cairo buo. Neither Kearns nor Morris is being replaced either — both NBC and CBS now cover Mideast from Beirut.

This roving corr — currently plowing through the sanddunes on the 1st leg of a round-the-world safari for the Londly-Express — finds the proverbial Arabic hospitality overwhelming. While coping with the pellmell protocol and trying to penetrate the bureaucracy protecting President Nasser from interview requests, no good fortune could equal knowing **Charles Arnot**. Charley has valuable friends in every direction here and his files are open to colleagues.

* * *

Cairo has one special attraction for me — for the 1st time I don't have to repeat my name endlessly — and spell it. In Moscow it came out 'Gerlain Scherpel.' As a 2-year Istanbul resident, the best I got was 'Miss Sapper, Sipper or Sip-HARD.' But they get it the first go-around in Cairo — I just explain that it's pronounced 'Shepard' — as in 'Shepherd's Hotel.'

Everybody salutes here. The 1st few days I felt like Gen Pershing after receiving the slap-dash, rag-taggle gesture which is a cross between nose-thumbing and pushing hair out of eyes. The same from little boys, taxi drivers, room bearers and doormen.

I usually carry a hatful of bubblegum for kids in faraway places. On arrival at Shepheard's I handed Julie the maid some — for her son. Later, as I was washing my hair in the bathtub, I rang for Julie (there's a bell-cord over the tub) to rinse out the shampoo. On my hands and knees, I turned to see Julie tilting a magnum of beer over my head, her big eyes (black as wet olives) about to pop

(Continued on page 5)

Editor This Week Is: Margaret Ralston
Bulletin Committee Chairmen:
Donald Wayne, Jess Gorkin
Managing Editor: Lucille G. Pierlot



Wissing

LatAm Coverage Sparse Says Rio Correspondent

Although each of the two principal wire services receive 5,000-10,000 words per day in New York from their Latin American bureaus, during a recent 6-month period Latin American coverage in papers of 3 principal U.S. cities averaged only 1.1% of column inches, said *Hans Wissing*, correspondent for *Jornal do Brazil* (Rio de Janeiro) and press officer of the Brazilian Government Trade Bureau.

Wissing appeared at an OPC Open House program Tues., Feb. 7, which featured a film on new developments in Brazil.

By contrast to sparse coverage of Latin American news here, said *Wissing*, Washington and New York stories make front-page headlines regularly in Brazil, and his paper in Rio is currently featuring a biographical series on Mrs. John F. Kennedy.

Brasilia, the new capital, is the largest and most imaginative example of city planning in the contemporary world — and its building will open up an entire new area of agricultural and industrial development, vastly enlarging the economic potential of Brazil, he said.

In her new President, Janio Quadros, Brazil has a brilliant young executive, who may be expected to join with President Kennedy in a new era of "friendship and mutual understanding to the benefit of the Hemisphere," *Wissing* predicted.

Among the guests present was Sra. Guimar Novaes, world-famous Brazilian concert pianist, just concluding a concert tour which included appearances with New York's Philharmonic.

Dorothy Thompson Called Her Era's 'Decisive Voice'

By VINCENT SHEEAN

Dorothy Thompson's natural endowment as political journalist and social critic was great. It included plain English, for example, far rarer in journalism than may be supposed. She wrote lucidly even when most indignant, and her gift for public speaking was developed in her great decade, 1935-1945, to such a level she hardly had a rival in the U.S.

Furthermore, her most successful years as a writer and speaker on international affairs came after a sound apprenticeship in the field as foreign correspondent. In her many and various opinions the reader felt not merely the operation of a mind vigorously at work, but also the validity of her preparation for the task.

The array of these gifts was quite impressive even in the most static sense, merely as a list of qualifications. What gave it the rarest quality was the way this array could be drawn up, marshalled into order and put into battle at the service of something she deeply felt to be right, or against something she deeply felt to be wrong.

Her governing preoccupations were therefore ethical, at least during the decade of her greatest power over opinion in this country. Such preoccupations can sometimes lead to mere sermonizing, or, when unaided by real talent, they can leave the reader unmoved. In *Dorothy's* case the depth and sincerity of feeling were fused with a talent so genuine as to carry almost every reader with her, at least for the time being, and since she was dealing with things of immediate moment, this was enough to give her a formidable historic influence. What part she had in mobilizing American thought and emotion against Hitler, or in defeating Roosevelt's attack on the Supreme Court, or in breaking down the neutrality legislation, can never be properly estimated. What we can know is that hers was one of the most decisive voices of her time during the years when an enormous public listened to her.

The secret of the power, it has always seemed to me — the active principle which turns the static into the dynamic and converts ethics into deeds — is courage. By this I do not mean physical courage, but an intrepidity in the choice of enemies and a defiance of them to do their worst, a moral or spiritual acceptance of conflict on unequal terms. The American public evidently responds to this kind of thing with special emphasis and fervor. When

Dorothy went into Madison Square Garden and dared to shout "Bunk!" at a dense rally of the American Nazi party she was only demonstrating something which she was already writing 3 times a week in her syndicated columns. When she clashed with the irresistible Roosevelt she seemed to be going much too far, but in the end — on the Supreme Court issue — it was Roosevelt who yielded.

In this great courage of hers, this defiance of the consequences, she also dared to change her mind from time to time. The most phenomenal example of this came in 1940 when, after having done a great deal to bring Wendell Willkie forward as Republican candidate for the presidency, she decided, after the Fall of France, that a change of administration would be dangerous and that she must therefore support Roosevelt. She did so, headlong and full tilt, in the columns of the great Republican newspaper which printed her work and which — under their contract — could not amend or delete it. When this contract came to an end it was not renewed.

Such was the woman who died in Lisbon last week. Her friends will have been saddened, but none who knew her could look back on *Dorothy's* life without an admixture of other emotions: pride for one, as when you draw yourself up to salute at the passing of a flag.

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CBS CORRESPONDENT DRAWS PORTRAIT OF PRAVDA

(Ed. Note: Editor & Publisher recently ran a story on Sam A. Jaffe's Pravda visit. Portions of the article are reprinted below.)

A guided tour of a Russian newspaper obtained by an American newsmen in Moscow provides a rare glimpse into the inner workings of Russia's fourth estate.

Such an unusual, if not unprecedented tour of *Pravda*, the largest daily newspaper in the Soviet Union, was made by Sam Jaffe, a correspondent for CBS.

6½ Million Circulation

Mr. Jaffe's guides informed him that the morning newspaper has a world-wide circulation of 6½ million. Of this figure, 5 million is sold on subscription; the remaining 1½ million at newsstands. *Pravda* publishes a 4-page edition 3 times a week which sells for 20 kopecks (roughly 2¢) and a 6-page edition 4 times a week at 30 kopecks (3¢). "I was told they have hopes of enlarging the paper's size," Jaffe said. "Apparently it's not a money-making proposition."

Pravda has a staff of 150 editors and what Russian newsmen call "reporter-writers." There are 60 correspondents in main or central provinces of the Soviet Union and some 33 correspondents in foreign capitals. TASS wires supply much of the paper's "straight" news coverage while *Pravda*'s own reporter-writers concentrate on feature stories, analysis, interpretation and opinion.

Main Departments

The paper's main departments shape up as follows: Foreign (broken down into sections such as U.S., Asia-Africa, Latin America and Europe); Science; Industry; Party Work; Agriculture; Education; Art; Literature; New Books (separate from Literature); Bibliography; Information; Marxism; Leninism Theory; Press; Library; Illustrations and Letters.

"Information," Jaffe explained, "apparently is comparable to our city side desk. This department covers general internal news and sports. Each department has 5 or 6 reporters or what they call working-journalists. The Foreign department alone takes up an entire floor of the building. The department of Press reviews other publications; the library department checks facts, figures, names, dates and spelling and generally seems to fulfill the same type of function as the research department at our *Life* magazine."

Jaffe noted that Mr. Eugene Litofhko, chief editor of the U.S. section, was most enthusiastic about the Letters department which the Russian journalist de-

scribed as "the largest and most important department at *Pravda*." Letters has the largest staff of any department: 50 people, most of them women.

Unusual Relationship

The reason behind the importance of this department points up the unusual relationship which apparently exists between the Russian people and their newspapers and the close ties between newspapers and government.

Jaffe was told that *Pravda* receives over 1,000 letters a day from its readers on subjects ranging from domestic and international affairs to personal problems.

"Whether or not *Pravda* publishes the letter, it will do something about it," Jaffe said. "Usually the paper refers the letter to the central ministry in Moscow which is concerned with the area in question, whether it be housing, automobiles, party membership problems or what have you. According to *Pravda* executives, every letter is answered."

Few Photographs

The paper publishes about 2 photographs a day and one cartoon but it has only 5 staff photographers and no staff editorial cartoonists. Cartooning is considered part of photography or the graphic arts and falls under the aegis of the Illustrations department.

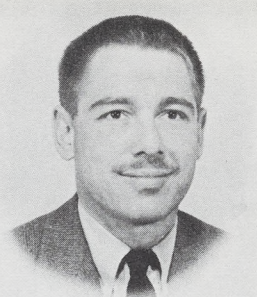
All cartoons are drawn by free-lancers, none of whom work in the *Pravda* building. A free-lancer may even be working for an opposition paper such as *Izvestia*. Each day, several cartoonists telephone various department heads and inquire what the major theme of the day is. Sometimes they offer ideas themselves; sometimes they are told what the main theme or story will be. The cartoonists then compete to draw the best illustration. Later they bring their products to *Pravda* where the day's cartoon is chosen during a 2 p.m. editorial conference. (*Pravda*'s deadline is 11 p.m. and presses roll at midnight unless there is a major news break when they stop the presses.)

Senior Critics

"Two senior critics are appointed for each of the weekly meetings, held to review past issues of the paper. They are responsible for reviewing in detail everything that has been printed in the past week. These critics, by the way, are not necessarily executives on the paper. They could be journalists or come from any number of departments.

"The critics dissect the content of every article in *Pravda*, paragraph by paragraph. Mr. Litofhko told me, 'We don't like to make mistakes at *Pravda*. Our readers are very critical. If a corres-

Sam A. Jaffe has served with CBS News for the past 5 years. He was the first Western correspondent to receive an interview with Red China's premier Chou en-lai since the Chinese



Jaffe

Revolution, at the Bandung Conference. Before joining CBS News, he worked for newspapers and a wire service on the West Coast. He has covered both Khrushchev visits to the U.S. and the Moscow Powers trial for CBS News.

pondent makes a mistake he is strongly reprimanded."

Jaffe was told that 50 percent of *Pravda* is written by its own staff; 50 percent by outside persons. The outside writers, or free-lancers, are specialists in whatever subject *Pravda* wants to cover whether it be aviation, science, engineering, education or medicine.

Special Articles

The special articles are planned well in advance of a specific date. After the writer is chosen, he is invited to a board meeting where he is encouraged to air his ideas as to how the article should be written and suggest other ideas for future articles. "We strive for fresh ideas because we do compete with *Izvestia* and *Konsomolskaya*," Litofhko told his visitor.

During his tour of the building, Jaffe met and spoke with a number of writers, many of whom spoke English. He communicated with other journalists through the interpreter who accompanied him throughout the tour.

"I walked down wide corridors which had offices on either side," Jaffe recalled. "Every journalist-writer had his own spacious office with either a radio or a TV set, a desk, chairs, couch and book cases. The rooms were simply adorned; spacious but austere.

U.S. Publications Studied

"In one of the offices I visited the reporter had copies of *Time* and *Newsweek* open on the desk in front of him and a *New York Times* spread out on the floor.

Jaffe noticed the absence of typewriters in many offices. Apparently, the majority of *Pravda* journalists prefer to write their stories in long hand.

Out of 150 writers and editors, there

are about 50 women on the Pravda staff. "Some of our best journalists are women," Jaffe was told. "They work on stories that have to have the woman's touch." ("Sort of like a Russian sob-sister," Jaffe remarked.) Only 10-15 women are actually writers. The remainder of the distaff side work in the Letters department or on the Library staff researching facts.

The average Pravda writer-journalist earns about 2,200 rubles a month. In addition to this average base salary, the writer gets extra fees for special articles; the amount dependent upon the length of the article and where it is played.

One writer told Jaffe that with his regular Pravda pay, fees for special articles and free-lance income, he often made as much as 5,000 rubles or roughly \$600 a month. (A TASS correspondent in New York said this could be understood as being a "handsome" income, especially when it is considered that education and medical care in Russia are provided free of charge; housing costs only a token payment in rent; commuting fare from a distance of 20 miles outside Moscow costs roughly 4¢ a month.)

Jaffe asked Pravda officials how they hire journalists. He was told that Russian journalism schools often suggest youngsters who show promise. "However," Jaffe added, "Litofhko played that down. He admitted Pravda often raids the personnel of other newspapers and magazines. Writers are often invited over to Pravda where an attempt is made to hire them away."

Jaffe also toured the newspaper's mammoth printing plant which occupies an area of about 3 blocks. It is located behind Pravda but connects with the newspaper building. In addition to Pravda, the plant also publishes Konsomolskaya Pravda and Soviet Union, a pictorial magazine published in several languages and sold in many countries throughout the world. Pravda itself is printed in 18 cities in Russia from mats that are flown out every night.

"With the exception of pictures of Lenin seen hanging everywhere and the remarkable number of women in this department, the plant looks like any other," Jaffe observed.

"Their linecasting machines come from all over the world. I saw 2 American Linotypes which are strictly used for headlines. The foreman also was proud of 2 new U.S. Teletypesetters. Three other Linotype machines are used for last minute corrections.

"The presses come from Russia, England, Germany and Switzerland. They are very excited about the Swiss press, a huge new machine which was just being installed at the time I was there. The Russian foreman told me: 'You see, we have peaceful coexistence of presses.'

TICKER (Continued from page 2)

out of her head because she was spouting an apple-size bubble of gum from between her teeth. And with her free hand, she was saluting!

If my bubble gum supply holds out, present plans include a photograph of Nasser's kids blowing bubbles curbside. The stuff didn't cost much, and Lord Beaverbrook will find it (item 12, page 4) on my 1st week's Cairo expenses.

* * *

Another expense-account item that I treasure is one for a cab ride to an Egyptian dinner party. The engine-knocking, fender-flapping horror that pulled up when I hollered was low as a submarine, slightly smaller than a breadbox. Tight-skirted I could only board by backing in. It was either that or risk kissing the driver on the back of the neck. He had a medium-sized bathtowel around his throat and a miniature kootch dancer wig-wagging from the rear-view mirror.

As he sat on his two-tone horn that went 'Mooo-Ooo,' we wove, bobbed and streaked through a warren of dimly-lit alleys, narrowly missing bicycles, ox carts, pregnant women and camels. (On the way home, I swear we drove under a camel.)

My hostess' first question: "Did you know Clark Gable? I wore black to the office that sad day he died."

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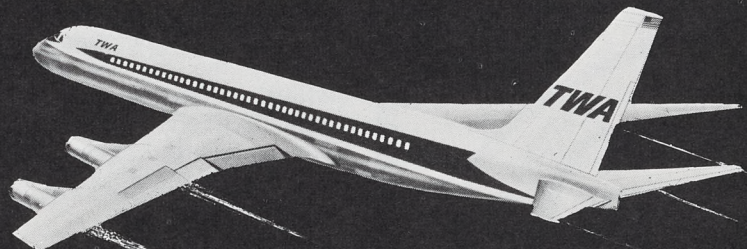
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LETTERS



Editor, *Bulletin*

As one of the earlier pioneer navigators in the North African reportorial desert, I salute and welcome aboard my spiritual kinsman, "Fred Snively", and other bemused colleagues cited in his passionate report of the Casablanca "Summit" Conference ("Bad Manners and Little News. . . ." in *OPC Bulletin*, Jan. 28).

All hail to *Newsweek's* gallant Arnaud de Borchgrave and the *London Daily Express's* intrepid Dick Kilian for slugging it out with dear Moulay Ahmed Alaoui, Morocco's "Information" Minister. This little twerp of a Blood Royal has been studiously making himself obnoxious since at least 1956.

But he is not alone. How wistfully I remember the Tangiers Conference of Maghreb "national parties" in April, 1958, where Mehdi Ben Barka and Ahmed Boumendjel, propaganda geniuses of Morocco's *Istiqlal* Party and Algeria's *Front Libération Nationale* respectively, organized for the attending correspondents a delightful sport of hide-and-peek replete with secret rendezvous, rude disappearances, lofty disdains and guaranteed no news.

There is a refreshing contrast in the Morocco case: those pre-independence days of 1955 and even 1953, when Ben Barka (and the now imperial Alaoui) would buttonhole you at every turn, pouring into your ear their grievances against the terrible French who were throttling free speech and stifling the buds of liberty. (Come to think of it, 3 French reporters were neatly massacred by native patriots on a Moroccan highway in 1955.)

Anyway, we have the consolation that things are not yet as jolly for our brethren in liberated Morocco as in independent Congo, where they not only throw things at you but tickle you with rifle-butts. Let us all look forward prayerfully to the promise of large courtesies (if and when) in a future free Algeria guided by the gentle FLN.

... Hal Snively

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PEOPLE & PLACES

TRAVELING: Roger Bowman, NBC, just returned from 4-day investigation of off-beat Puerto Rico — its economy & future. He was guest of Luis Ferre, Rep. candidate for Gov. of PR (running on a platform for statehood)... **Will Sparks** left Sat. for 6 weeks in Panama to make documentary films on Central America... **Betty Reef** is in Cuba at Guantanamo Naval Base doing human interest series for WNS... **Dorothy Ducas** attended recent Atlanta meeting of Surgeon General's Committee on Polio Control as spec. consultant to Public Health Serv. & author of new 'Babies & Breadwinners' polio vaccination program for '61... **Sheldon Machlin** just returned from series of photo assignments in Holland, Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, Turkey, Italy, Spain & Portugal — can be contacted thru his NY office. (He has 53 photos on exhibit at U. of Maine this month)...

PUBLICATIONS: Larry Blochman's translation of 'A Month Among the Girls' by Maryse Choisy (described on jacket as 'The book that closed the brothels of Paris') published by Matt Huttner's Pyramid Books... **Fred Kerner** has a 4-part serial on Canadian medical researcher Dr. Hans Selye coming up as Feb. 'spotlight feature' for United Feature Serv. His new book 'Stress & Your Heart', due this spring, is based on Selye's work... **Rosalind Massow**, JnlAmer, has a piece in current issue of Doctor's Wife on traveling in So. America... **Gwen Dew Buchanan**, travel ed. for Point West mag, Scottsdale, Ariz., was guest ed. for its Jan. issue... **Roland Gammon**, recently returned from series of lectures in New England, has article on 'Public Relations Ethics & Competence' in '61 Variety Annual... **Leo J. Margolin**, v.p. of Tex McCrary Inc. & professor of PR at NYU, has just launched new weekly column appearing in Civil Service Leader titled 'Your Public Relations IQ' — ('first column on PR appearing on the regular schedule in newspaper history')... **Helen Auble's** Caribbean Vacationlands 10th anniversary edition, which was destroyed in million dollar fire at Rich Lithographing Co. (Chicopee Falls, Mass.) on Dec. 9, was completely reconstructed from charred remnants in 9 days and came off press Jan. 28...

RADIO-TV: George Brown, news dir. for WOR Div. of RKO General Inc., is to be one of 2 corrs specially covering Eichmann trial in Jerusalem Mar. 15...

STORK CLUB: William Berrien Winston, born Dec. 19, 1960, was adopted Jan. 25 by Tom & Peggy Winston.

NEW POSITIONS: Bill Safire, former v.p. of Tex McCrary Inc., has launched his own PR agency (Safire Public Relations, 375 Park Ave., NYC)... Award-winning b'caster **Martin Weldon** has been named dir. of news & spec. events for Metropolitan Broadcasting Corp.

BATTLE FOR CONTROL OF UK PRINT EMPIRE

by JAY AXELBANK

LONDON — Fleet Street is once more racked by merger news — almost before the ashes of *The News Chronicle* and *The Star* had cooled.

The battle began rather quietly in late January when Thomson Newspapers (*The Sunday Times*, the string of formerly Kemsley provincials and Scottish TV) and Odhams Press (women's and trade magazines, *The Daily Herald* and *The Sunday People*) announced plans to merge under the chairmanship of Roy Thomson.

Then Cecil King of Daily Mirror Newspapers (*Daily Mirror*, *Sunday Pictorial*, magazines) offered Odhams stockholders a fat cash price for their shares in a take-over bid.

A merged Mirror-Odhams would own every British women's magazine with a 350,000-and-up circulation and be the largest single owner of technical and trade papers. Together with its newspapers, newsprint holdings and Commonwealth papers, it would be the UK's greatest accumulation of press assets.

A Thomson-Odhams deal would be less controversial since there is relatively little overlap.

Both Government and Opposition are gravely concerned. Macmillan has warned King that a Mirror-Odhams deal could run afoul the Monopolies Commission.

Labour is particularly alarmed about the fate of the Labourite *Daily Herald*, which is only just limping along financially under the present Odhams management.

An Odhams-Mirror merger could be expected to throw still more newsmen, writers and editors out into Fleet Street, since internal mergers of parallel publications certainly would follow.

Meanwhile, the *Daily Sketch* — only morning paper to lose circulation since the *Chronicle* and *Star* both folded in the fall — appears to be on the skids.

And the newspaper price hike, half-a-penny to threepence, set for March could speed the demise.

Fiercer Sunday competition began Feb. 5 with the first issue of the new *Sunday Telegraph*, billed as somewhat smaller, somewhat newsier and somewhat cheaper than its intellectual rivals — *The Sunday Times* and *The Observer*.

As Thomson told newsmen in announcing plans for the Odham merger: "I think there are going to be very competitive times ahead in Fleet Street. You can see the weaker are going to the wall."

NEW MEMBERS

The Chairman of the Admissions Committee announces the election to membership of the following candidates:

ACTIVE

Ernest Conine — McGraw-Hill World News, Moscow
Shirley Kendrick — McGraw-Hill Publ. Co.
Leslie Lieber — *This Week Magazine*
Norman Sklarewitz — CBS, Tokyo
Ernie Weatherall — *Stars & Stripes*, Berlin

ASSOCIATE

Ben Ames — UPI 1934/42
John C. Devlin — *New York Times*
Leo Dolan — free lance
Herman Ehrenreich — *Jewish Daily Forward*
Edward Hanna — WCBS Radio
Sol Horenstein — WBAB Radio
J. Edward Klein — *The Phila. Inquirer* 1936/55
Lawrence L. Klingman — UPI 1948/53
Mel Lazarus — *N.Y. Herald Tribune*
John Meredith Patterson — CBS News
Arthur A. Riley — *Boston Globe*

LUTER TO NEAR EAST

Club president John Luter is representing the OPC on a 3-week trip to the Near East, which began last Fri., Feb. 3. He is one of several representatives of the N.Y. World's Fair who will present official invitations to countries in the Near East.

In addition to visiting Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan, the president also hopes to make brief stops in Rome and Paris but will be back in N.Y. around Feb. 25.

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AROUND THE WORLD NEWSBEATS -- AND THOSE WHO COVER



Jacques Nevard (*New York Times*) interviews diminutive Captain Kong Le, who precipitated the Laos crisis with his "neutralist" coup last August.



UPI Photographer Frank Beatty was one of newsmen ordered away from area at Santa Maria docking area in Recife, Brazil, by Brazilian soldier.



Laotian Premier Boun Oum Na Champassak is interviewed by UPI Correspondent Arthur Dommen in Vientiane.



Paul Hofmann of *The N.Y. Times* questions a Congolese warrior in Leopoldville — part of leg work involved in covering Congo beat.



Bill Lawrence of *The New York Times* quips with President and Mrs. Kennedy in Washington before they took off for Palm Beach before the inauguration.



Pictured helping celebrate Dr. Schweitzer's 86th birthday in Gabonese Republic, is Marion Preminger. She is due back in New York next month.